

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 21- 32 are added by this Amendment. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for managing postage products, comprising:
causing information about a plurality of products to be displayed;
receiving a selection of at least one of said plurality of products;
comparing said selection with subscription information about ones of said plurality of products currently subscribed;
updating said subscription information based upon said selection; and
providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription information.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription comprises adding a subscription to a product selected in said selection information, if said product was not in said subscription information.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein adding a subscription comprises determining if hardware is required by said selected product; and if so, determining whether said hardware has not been previously sent to a consumer making said selection, and if so, sending said hardware to said consumer.
4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein adding a subscription comprises:
determining if an account is required by said selected product; and if so obtaining information about a consumer making said selection;
creating an account for said consumer based upon said information.

5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein adding a subscription comprises:

determining if a postal license is required by said selected product; and if so
obtaining information about a consumer making said selection; and
obtaining a postal license for said consumer based upon said information.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription comprises deleting a subscription to a product de-selected in said selection information, if said product was in said subscription information.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein deleting a subscription comprises
determining if hardware is required by said de-selected product, and if so,
determining whether de-selecting said product causes said hardware to no longer
be required by a consumer making said selection, and if so,
sending a return merchandise authorization for said hardware to said consumer.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein deleting a subscription comprises:
determining if an account is required by said de-selected product; and if so
determining if an account is required by any remaining products; and if an
account is no longer required,
obtaining permission from a consumer making said selection to deactivate said
account; and, if provided,
deactivating said account for said consumer.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein deleting a subscription comprises:
determining if a postal license is required by said de-selected product; and if so
determining if a postal license is required by any remaining products; and if said
postal license is no longer required,

obtaining permission from a consumer making said selection to deactivate said postal license; and, if provided,
deactivating said postal license for said consumer.

10. (Withdrawn) An apparatus for managing postage products, comprising:
a processor;
a memory;
a display;
an input device;
a bus, interconnecting said processor, said memory, said display, and said input device; wherein
said processor causes information about a plurality of products to be displayed on said display; and wherein said processor receives a selection of at least one of said plurality of products from said input device; and thereupon, said processor compares said selection with subscription information about ones of said plurality of products currently subscribed, updates said subscription information based upon said selection, and provides access to selected products based upon said updated subscription information.

11. (Withdrawn) A computer program product for managing postage products, comprising:
code that causes information about a plurality of products to be displayed;
code that receives a selection of at least one of said plurality of products;
code that compares said selection with subscription information about ones of said plurality of products currently subscribed;
code that updates said subscription information based upon said selection;
code that provides access to selected products based upon said updated subscription information; and
a computer readable storage medium for holding the codes.

12. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription comprises adding a subscription to a product selected in said selection information, if said product was not in said subscription information.

13. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 12, wherein code that adds a subscription comprises:

- code that determines if hardware is required by said selected product;
- code that determines whether said hardware has not been previously sent to a consumer making said selection;
- code that sends said hardware to said consumer.

14. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 12, wherein code that adds a subscription comprises:

- code that determines if an account is required by said selected product;
- code that obtains information about a consumer making said selection;
- code that creates an account for said consumer based upon said information.

15. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 12, wherein code that adds a subscription comprises:

- code that determines if a postal license is required by said selected product;
- code that obtains information about a consumer making said selection;
- code that obtains a postal license for said consumer based upon said information.

16. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein code that provides access to selected products based upon said updated subscription, comprises code that deletes a subscription to a product de-selected in said selection information, if said product was in said subscription information.

17. (Withdrawn) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein said code that deletes a subscription comprises:

- code that determines if hardware is required by said de-selected product;
- code that determines whether de-selecting said product causes said hardware to no longer be required by a consumer making said selection; and
- code that sends a return merchandise authorization for said hardware to said consumer.

18. (Withdrawn) The computer program of claim 16, wherein said code that deletes a subscription comprises:

- code that determines if an account is required by said de-selected product;
- code that determines if said account is required by any remaining products;
- code that obtains permission from a consumer making said selection to deactivate said account; and, if provided,
- code that deactivates said account for said consumer.

19. (Withdrawn) The computer program of claim 16, wherein said code that deletes a subscription comprises:

- code that determines if a postal license is required by said de-selected product;
- code that determines if said postal license is required by any remaining products;
- code that obtains permission from a consumer making said selection to deactivate said postal license; and
- code that deactivates said postal license for said consumer.

20. (Withdrawn) A system for managing postage products, comprising:

- at least one of a plurality of clients;
- at least one of a plurality of servers;
- a network, interconnecting said at least one of a plurality of clients and said at least one of a plurality of servers;

a database;

a second network, interconnecting said at least one of a plurality of servers and said database; wherein

said at least one of a plurality of servers causes information about at least one of a plurality of products to be displayed at said at least one of a plurality of clients; and wherein said at least one of a plurality of clients receives a selection of at least one of said plurality of products from an input device; and thereupon, said at least one of a plurality of clients forwards said selection to said at least one of a plurality of servers, which compares said selection with subscription information about ones of said plurality of products currently subscribed, said subscription information stored in said database, updates said subscription information based upon said selection, and provides access to selected products based upon said updated subscription information.

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein:

said causing information to be displayed is effected by one or more servers;

said information is displayed by a client computer connected to at least one of the one or more servers over a network; and

the selection is provided by the client computer and received by at least one of the one or more servers over the network.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein said comparing, updating, and providing are performed by one or more servers in response to receiving the selection from a client computer connected to the one or more servers over a network.

23. (New) A computer-implemented method for managing postage products, the method comprising:

causing information about a plurality of distinct postage products to be displayed;

receiving a selection of at least one of said plurality of products;

comparing said selection with subscription information about ones of said plurality of products currently subscribed;

updating said subscription information based upon said selection; and
providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription information.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription comprises adding a subscription to a product selected in said selection information, if said product was not in said subscription information.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein adding a subscription comprises determining if hardware is required by said selected product; and if so, determining whether said hardware has not been previously sent to a consumer making said selection, and if so,

generating information specifying that said hardware is to be sent to said consumer.

26. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription comprises deleting a subscription to a product de-selected in said selection information, if said product was in said subscription information.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein deleting a subscription comprises determining if hardware is required by said de-selected product, and if so, determining whether de-selecting said product causes said hardware to no longer be required by a consumer making said selection, and if so,

generating information for sending a return merchandise authorization for said hardware to said consumer.

28. (New) A computer-implemented method wherein program code executing on one or more servers manages postage products for one or more clients, the method, performed by the one or more servers, comprising:

sending information to a particular client, the information when received by the particular client, causing information about a plurality of distinct postage products to be displayed;

receiving from the particular client a selection of at least one of the plurality of distinct postage products;

comparing said selection with subscription information about one or more of said plurality of distinct postage products currently subscribed;

updating said subscription information based upon the selection; and

providing access for the particular client to one or more of said plurality of distinct postage products based upon said updated subscription information.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription comprises adding a subscription to a product selected in said selection information, if said product was not in said subscription information.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein adding a subscription comprises determining if hardware is required by said selected product; and if so, determining whether said hardware has not been previously sent to a consumer making said selection, and if so,

generating information specifying that said hardware is to be sent to said consumer.

31. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein providing access to selected products based upon said updated subscription comprises deleting a subscription to a product de-selected in said selection information, if said product was in said subscription information.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein deleting a subscription comprises

determining if hardware is required by said de-selected product, and if so,
determining whether de-selecting said product causes said hardware to no longer
be required by a consumer making said selection, and if so,
generating information for sending a return merchandise authorization for said
hardware to said consumer.